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A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE INSTITUTION, PLAN, AND PRESENT STATE OF THE New General Lying-in Hospital, IN *Store Street, Tottenham Court Road.*

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SHORT ACCOUNT, &c.

A Subſcription was, in the Year 1767, ſet on foot by ſeveral Noblemen, Gentlemen, &c. for eſtabliſhing

Account of the firſt Inſtitution.

A New and General Lying-in Hoſpital;

Propoſals were immediately printed, and the Inſtitutors of this uſeful and extenſive Charity were exceedingly flattered by the general Approbation and liberal Encouragement of the Public.

A Committee was appointed, at a general Meeting of the Governors, to conduct the Buſineſs of this Charity; and they immediately hired a Houſe, known by the Name of *Queen's Hoſpital*, in *Oxford Road*, near *Hanover Square*, which Hoſpital was founded on the ſame Plan, for the general Reception of Lying-in Women: Here they relieved ſeveral diſtreſſed Objects. But as this Houſe was too ſmall for the intended Purpoſes of the Charity,

Committee appointed. Their Proceedings.

rity, they have ſince taken a more commodious One, ſituate in

Store Street, Tottenham Court Road,

where Patients are received every *Monday* Forenoon.

The Committee likewiſe think it neceſſary to repeat here, the Reaſons which firſt induced the Eſtabliſhnent of this Hoſpital, as publiſhed in their former Propoſals; at the ſame Time they beg Leave to ſolicit the further Donations of the Affluent and Benevolent, that they may be enabled to extend the Benefits of this uſeful Charity.

Reaſons for the firſt Inſtitution.

To ſhew the Expediency and Utility of ſo benevolent a Deſign, it may not be improper to inform the Public, that the principal Lying-in Hoſpitals in this City, as well as the Charities for Delivering Poor Women at their Own Habitations, are all too circumſcribed in their Plans: The Hoſpitals, by only receiving Married Women; and the Charities, by the very Nature of their Eſtabliſhment. For it is apprehended, thoſe unhappy Creatures are no improper Objects of Compaſſion and Relief, who have been ſeduced from the Paths of Virtue, and are of courſe precluded from the Advantages of thoſe Hoſpitals, and who, baniſhed from their Friends, have no Habitations wherein to receive the Benefits of theſe Charities. It is more eſpecially, then, to ſuch, who, overwhelmed with Shame and Remorſe, and deſtitute of every other Means of Subſiſtence, muſt infallibly ſink under their complicated Misfortunes, that this Hoſpital means to beſtow its beneficent Relief, at that Seaſon

of

of Diſtreſs, in which, of all others, Relief is moſt needful.

The Inſtitutors of this Charity flatter themſelves, they ſhall not only reſcue from the extremeſt Miſery many unhappy Wretches, who might otherwiſe have been driven to the laſt Act of Deſperation againſt themſelves or Offspring, but ſhall, at the ſame Time, be able to reclaim and reſtore to Society, many who would otherwiſe have been compelled to a future Life of Idleneſs, Infamy, and Profligacy.

Objections anſwered.

It will perhaps be objected, that an Hoſpital of this Kind, formed on a general Plan, may afford Encouragement to Vice. To obviate a Prejudice, founded rather in Imagination than Experience, it ſhould be remembered, that the common Proſtitute ſeldom or never has Occaſion for the Benefit of ſuch a Charity; and as no Woman can, on any Conſideration, be admitted a Patient a ſecond Time, unleſs ſhe is married, the firſt Offence ought certainly never to exclude the Wretched from Pity and Relief.

This Objection, ariſing from a miſtaken but tender Regard for Virtue and its Intereſts, has been frequently repeated againſt the *Foundling*, *Magdalen*, and *Lock* Hoſpitals—Charities founded on the moſt liberal Benevolence, countenanced by many Benefactors of the ſtricteſt Virtue, and which, from ſeveral Years Experience, are found not only to refute this Objection, but, as far as their Influence extends, to have been productive of the moſt ſalutary Conſequences to Society.

Twenty Years Experience has now abundantly eſtabliſhed the Utility of this Charity. During that Period, nearly THREE THOUSAND Women have been

delivered in this Hoſpital; beſides above 1,000, who have been attended at their own Habitations; *of that Number more than half have been admitted on their own perſonal Application to the Weekly Committee, without any Letters of Recommendation from Governors, the invariable Method of Admiſſion into other Hoſpitals. The Committee, on Enquiry, finding that thoſe unfortunate Women who were incapable of procuring ſuch Letters, were either the Wives of Soldiers or Sailors employed Abroad in the Service of their Country, or ſingle Women, driven from Home to ſeek Refuge and Relief among Strangers, and thus under Circumſtances of the moſt urgent and complicated Diſtreſs, were become the peculiar Objects of a public Charity; have the great Satisfaction of aſſuring the Public, that ſince the Inſtitution of this Hoſpital, not one Woman has been refuſed Admiſſion who has appeared to them a proper and deſerving Object.*

One Inconvenience, and that a great one, had ariſen from this Diſpoſition to beſtow univerſal Relief, to which the circumſcribed State of their Funds was very inadequate; for, notwithſtanding the ſtricteſt Œconomy, the Hoſpital was conſiderably in Arrears with the Treaſurer. From that Embarraſſment however, they have, ſome time ſince, been completely relieved by an Event of ſo ſingular a Nature, ſo creditable to this Inſtitution, and which, at the ſame Time, conveys ſuch unqueſtionable Teſtimony of the good Conduct, as well as pre-eminent Benevolence of this Charity, that the Committee cannot prevail on themſelves to with-hold from the Subſcribers, and the Public at large, the following conciſe relation.

In the Year 1776, a Gentleman, of the Name of *Holt*, left by Will, his perſonal Eſtate, amounting to £12,000. to be divided equally between the Foundling and Lying-in Hoſpitals. But as there were Six

Lying-in

Lying-in Hoſpitals in this City, and it was evidently the Intention of the Teſtator, that the Bequeſt ſhould go to one only, the Lord Chancellor referred it to *Edward Leeds*, Eſq; a Maſter in Chancery, to enquire into the comparative Merits of all the different Lying-in Hoſpitals, and to report his opinion of the ſame. After the moſt critical Inveſtigation being made by the Maſter, and after every poſſible Exception and Objection being argued by Counſel, according to the Forms of the Court of Chancery, before the ſaid Maſter, he was pleaſed ultimately to report in favour of this Hoſpital, in preference to all the other Lying-in Hoſpitals; which Report, after four ſolemn Hearings before the Lord Chancellor, his Lordſhip was pleaſed finally to confirm, and ordered (*May* 25th, 1785) the Stock, with the accruing Intereſt, to be transferred to the Treaſurer for the Uſe and Benefit of this Hoſpital.

When it is conſidered that this Hoſpital is the ſmalleſt in its Eſtabliſhment, and the lateſt in its Inſtitution of all the Hoſpitals in this City appropriated for the Reception of Lying-in Women, the Committee cannot but deem a Preference from ſuch high Authority, at once the moſt flattering, as well as the moſt convincing Proof, of, the Excellence of the original Inſtitution, as well as the general Utility and good Conduct in the Proſecution of its Objects.

Without meaning to make any invidious Compariſon with the other Hoſpitals, it becomes the Committee to point out to the Reader the Circumſtance in the Inſtitution of this Charity, which diſcriminated it from every other Hoſpital, and on the merit of which their Succeſs chiefly depended; he is therefore referred to the Paragraph above, in Italics, beginning "*of that number nearly half*," &c. and from the general Tenor of this Conduct, the Committee pledge themſelves never to depart.

Terms for becoming Governors. Annual Governor.

Every Perſon ſubſcribing *Two Guineas* or upwards, ſhall be a Governor for one Year; or, on paying any Sum not leſs than *Twenty Guineas* at one Time, ſhall be a Governor for Life. After the Expiration of the preſent Year, the Terms of Subſcription will be raiſed, by Order of a general Meeting, to Three Guineas for an annual Governor, and Thirty Guineas for a Governor for Life. Smaller Donations will be thankfully received.

Perpetual Governor.

The Accounts of this Hoſpital are examined and audited every Year by a Committee appointed for that Purpoſe, and are always open for the Inſpection of the Governors.

Permiſſion for the Governors to recommend Patients unlimited.

Every Governor ſhall have Permiſſion to recommend as many Patients as the Funds will ſupport.

Out Patients.

If more Women are recommended by Governors, or apply to the Weekly Board, than the Hoſpital can accommodate, ſuch who cannot be taken into the Houſe will be eſteemed Out Patients, and attended at their own Habitations.

Further Utility of this Charity.

To render the Utility of this Charity as extenſive as poſſible, it is further propoſed, That wherever a Midwife is attending any poor Woman (within a moderate Diſtance) in a Caſe of ſo much Difficulty or Danger as to require other Aſſiſtance, ſuch poor Woman, on Application to the Hoſpital, without any Letter of Recommendation from a Governor, ſhall be immediately attended by the Man-Midwife.

Any Woman in diſtreſſed Circumſtances, taken ſuddenly in Labour, will be received into this Hoſpital, at all Hours of the Day or Night, without any Letter of Recommendation from a Governor.

Be-

Beſides the ordinary Subſcriptions, the Governors have been favoured with two charity Sermons, at *Fitz-Roy* Chapel; the One preached by the Biſhop of *Peterborough*, and the other by the Biſhop of *Saliſbury*, and on *Sunday*, *May* 7th, the Biſhop of *Landaff* has kindly engaged to preach at the ſame Chapel for the Benefit of this Charity.

The following Gentlemen of the Profeſſion, who are likewiſe Governors, attend the Patients in this Hoſpital, without Fee or Reward.

Dr. OSBORN, *Percy Street*, Phyſician, and Man Midwife in Ordinary.

Dr. SAVAGE, *Conduit Street*, Phyſician, and Man-Midwife Extraordinary.

Mr. MASSIE, *Southampton Street, Bloomſbury*, Surgeon.

Mr. JOHN CLARKE, *Chancery Lane*, Aſſiſtant Man-Midwife.

Mr. CHARLES DAWES, *Newman Street*, Apothecary, and Secretary.

Mr. ORLTON, *St. George's Row, Black-Friars Bridge*, Collector.

Mrs. WATSON, Matron *and* Midwife, *always reſides in the Hoſpital.*

N. B. *Dr. Oſborn attends at the Hoſpital every Monday at Twelve o'Clock, to give Advice gratis in Diſeaſes of Women and Children.*

Sub-

Subſcriptions are taken in at the following Bankers, where Books are opened for that Purpoſe, &c.

Meſſ. HERCY, BIRCH, and HOBBS, in *New Bond Street*;

Meſſ. HENRY BOLDERO, ADEY, BOLDERO, and Co. *Lombard Street*;

At the ſaid Hoſpital, by the WEEKLY COMMITTEE, every *Monday* Noon; or Dr. WILLIAM OSBORN, Treaſurer, *Percy Street*.

The following Gentlemen are appointed the Weekly Committee.

The Rev. Mr. Bromley.
Mr. John Clarke.
Dr. Denman.
Sir James Douglas.
William Franks, Eſq;
Hugh James, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. Maty.
Middleton Onſlow, Eſq;
Dr. William Oſborn.
Edmund Pepys, Eſq;
John Smith, Eſq;

A LIST

A LIST OF THE GOVERNORS, PERPETUAL and ANNUAL.

Thoſe marked with an * are Perpetual Governors.

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* His Grace the Duke of DORSET.

VICE PRESIDENTS;

His Excellency Baron NOLKIN.
* Sir EDWARD HALES, Bart.
* Brigadier General SMITH.
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* Geo. OSBALDESTON, Eſq;

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—— Ardeſoif, Eſq;

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* Hugh James, Eſq; *Welbeck Street.*
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M

The Rev. Mr. Matty, *Muſeum.*
Mr. Richard Morriſon, *Cheapſide.*
Major Gen. Melville, *Great Pultney Street.*
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Mr. Maſſie, *Southampton Street.*
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Mrs. Neſbitt, *Conduit Street.*

George

O

George Oſbaldeſton, Eſq; *Welbeck Street.*
Middleton Onſlow, Eſq; *Newman Street.*
* Dr. William Oſborn, *Percy Street.*
* Mrs. Charlotte Oſborn, *Ditto.*
* Miſs Oſborn, *Ditto.*
* Miſs Caroline Oſborn, *Ditto.*

P

* Peter Paumier, Eſq;
* Sir Lucas Pepys, Bart. *Upper Brook Street.*
Edmund Pepys, Eſq; *Upper Charlotte Street.*
The Biſhop of Peterborough.
* Mr. Pooley.

R

* The Rt. Hon. Lord Romney, *Hanover Square.*
Mr. Ruſpini, *Pall Mall.*
Jenkinſon Redding, Eſq; *Welbeck Street.*
Sir Thomas Rumbold, Bart.

S

The Biſhop of Saliſbury.
The Right Hon. Lady Stormont.
* John Smith, Eſq; *Little Mary-la-bonne Street.*
Dr. Savage, *Conduit Street.*
* Mr. Stanley, *Hatton Street.*
Mr. Sharman, *Bond Street.*
Major General R. Smith.

Thompſon

T

* —— Thompſon, Eſq;

W

Fowler Walker, Eſq; *Lincoln's-inn.*
* Mr. J. Wane, *Iſlington.*
—— Whatley, Eſq; *Foundling Hoſpital.*

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

FINIS.